

Message Text

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22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 OES-06 OMB-01 DHA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /079 W

----- 048248

O R 310524Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9149

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6814

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS KN

SUBJ: ROK RED CROSS SENDS CONCILIATORY MESSAGE TO NK ON FISHING
BOAT INCIDENT

REF: SEOUL 6795 (DTG 300848Z AUG 76)

1. ACCORDING TO ROK RED CROSS SPOKESMAN CHUNG CHU-NYONG,
ROK RED CROSS PRESIDENT YI HO SENT HOT LINE MESSAGE TO
NORTH KOREAN RED CROSS ABOUT 1630 LOCAL TIME AUGUST 30
CONCERNING VIOLATION OF NORTH KOREAN TERRITORIAL WATERS BY
ROK FISHING BOAT (RETEL) AND SUBSEQUENT SEIZURE BY NK NAVY
WHICH, WHILE NOT USING WORDS "REGRETFUL" OR "APOLOGY", NONE-
THELESS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ROK FISHING BOAT HAD VIOLATED
NORTH'S TERRITORIAL WATERS AND, EXPLAINING THAT INTRUSION
WAS UNINTENTIONAL AND CAUSED BY ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS, ASKED
THAT NORTH KOREAN RED CROSS RETURN 23 FISHERMEN IN SPIRIT
OF HUMANITARIANISM. CHUNG SAID THAT TONE OF MESSAGE, AS WELL
AS ITS CONCILIATORY CONTENT WAS UNPRECEDENTED FOR ROK, AC-
KNOWLEDGING AS IT DID THAT ROK FISHING BOAT HAD INTRUDED INTO
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NK WATERS. CHUNG SAID HE COULD RECALL NO INCIDENT IN WHICH

NORTH KOREAN FISHING BOAT HAD ACCIDENTALLY ENTERED INTO SOUTH KOREAN WATERS, SO THERE WAS NO BASIS FOR COMPARISON WITH CUSTOMARY NORTH KOREAN ATTITUDE IN IDENTICAL SITUATION. HE SAID THAT CUSTOMARILY ROK DOES NOT ACKNOWLEDGE ANY POSSIBILITY OF RESPONSIBILITY AND TAKES DELIBERATELY HARD POSTURE IN QUESTIONS OF THIS NATURE.

2. CHUNG SAID THAT NO ANSWER HAD BEEN RECEIVED AS OF 1800 ASIDE FROM INITIAL RESPONSE THAT NORTH HAD RECEIVED MESSAGE AND SOUTH SHOULD WAIT FOR RESPONSE. IN PAST INSTANCES NORTH HAS INDICATED SOUTH SHOULD WAIT FOR RESPONSE BUT HAS THEN NOT RESPONDED.
SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIP DETENTION, SOCIAL SERVICES, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, FISHING BOATS, TERRITORIAL WATERS VIOLATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Date: 04 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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